

Remarks

Claims 1-23, 25-31, and 33-40 are pending. Claims 1-23, 25-31, and 33-40 stand rejected. Claims 24 and 32 were previously cancelled.

Claims 1-23 and 25-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over WO 20054187 (Franco et al.) in view of U.S. Publication 2002/0056123 (Liwerant et al.) and in view of US Patent 6,016,520 (Facq). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Independent claims 1, 10, 16, 22, and 30 require a software application running on a local server and interfacing with a web-server. The web-server provides the local server with data which is converted to a format compatible with the software application by at least one of the local server and the web-server. In addition, independent claims 1, 10, 16, 22, and 30 require that the software application add user preference derived information to information requested by a user.

Advantageously, the claims may be implemented in some embodiments so that information that is retrievable from the web-server is provided in a pre-defined or pre-designated format that enables the local server to utilize, organize, manage and integrate the received data (see page 4, lines 17-20). Another advantage is that for a GUI, the pre-defined format enables the GUI to provide the user with an integrated presentation of information related to the software application, whether the information is stored locally or on a remote server, network, etc.

Franco does not disclose a local server that interfaces to a web-server. Franco does not disclose a software application running on a local server. Franco does not disclose a format converting process that is performed in a local server.

Instead, Franco discloses a universal music player (500) that receives and stores music data of many formats (see abstract). The universal music player of Franco directly interfaces to the Internet and remote web sites (see FIG. 1A and FIG. 9). Franco does not disclose any intermediate server that performs format conversion if the received data is not of an expected or predetermined format. Moreover, Franco does not even disclose performing any format conversion. This is reflected in the presence of multiple format players included in the players 515-1 to 515-N of Franco (see FIG. 1A, see page 11, lines

19-20, and see page 12, lines 8-12). In addition, Franco states that a player can “interpret one or more formats.” (see page 12, lines 10-12).

Therefore, not only does Franco not teach or suggest a local server, Franco teaches away from a combination of a device incorporating format conversion to receive and accommodate data of multiple different formats. Consequently, the combination of Franco and Liwerant is improper.

The Office Action supplies Facq and asserts that Facq discloses preference derived information. The Office Action cites col. 2, lines 34-59 and col. 7, lines 24-36 of Facq in support of this assertion.

However, Facq does not teach or suggest adding user preference derived information. Moreover, Facq does not teach or suggest adding user preference derived information to information requested by a user. Instead, Facq discloses a multiple media viewer system 50 (see FIG. 2) that is able to “anticipatorily transfer media items *likely to be needed* by the viewer application before they are requested by the viewer application 60.” (emphasis added). However, there is no suggestion in Facq that this anticipatory transfer is based on preference information of the user. On the contrary, Facq discloses that the anticipatory transfer is actually based on “the relationships between media items contained in the multiple media title and on the manner or order in which the viewer application 60 requests transfer of the items in a title to predict which items are likely to be requested next by the viewer application.” (see col. 7, lines 46-54). Therefore, the combination of Facq with Franco and Liwerant is improper.

Independent claims 1, 10, 16, 22, and 30 therefore include features that are neither taught nor suggested by the cited references. Claims 2-9, 11-15, 17-21, 23, 25-29, 31, and 33-40 are allowable for the same reasons as claims 1, 10, 16, 22, and 30.

Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-23, 25-31, and 33-40.

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